



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

**HIROOKA et al.**

Group Art Unit: 1746

Serial No.: 09/337,278

Examiner: **J. Smetana**

Filed: **June 22, 1999**

For: **CLEANING AND HANDLING METHOD OF ELECTRONIC COMPONENT AND  
CLEANING APPARATUS THEREOF**

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
Sir:

Date: April 13, 2001

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4-18-01

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated March 27, 2001.

In the Action, restriction is required between Group (I), claims 1 - 10 drawn to a method of cleaning; Group (II), claims 11 - 13 drawn to a method of handling; and Group (III), claims 14-19 drawn to an apparatus.

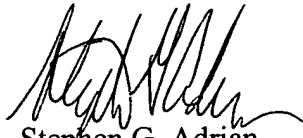
Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group (I), claims 1 - 10 for prosecution in this application. This election is made without traverse, it being understood that the applicant's right to the filing of a Divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 USC §120 and 35 USC §121 is retained.

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In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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